

Warden Message
International Worker's Day March on May 1, 2010

April 30, 2010

The U.S. Embassy in Quito informs American citizens visiting or resident in the Quito area that tomorrow, Saturday May 1, 2010, a march in commemoration of International Worker's Day is scheduled to take place, beginning at the Parque Arbolito and ending at the Presidential Palace.

It is anticipated that the participants – who might number between 5,000-8,000 – will start to gather at about 8:00 a.m. The event is expected to be pacific in nature. However the U.S. Embassy reminds American citizens that even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and possibly escalate into violence. The event is also expected to cause traffic congestion in the vicinity of the Parque Arbolito and the Presidential Palace.

American citizens are urged to avoid demonstrations if possible and to exercise caution when in the surrounding areas. Please note that foreigners participating in political demonstrations or protests of any kind may be subject to arrest and deportation under Ecuadorian law.

American citizens are strongly urged to avoid all areas where demonstrations are in progress and should be prepared for intermittent road closures, including major routes throughout the country. If you should encounter demonstrations and/or roadblocks, you should not attempt to continue the planned travel or confront those at the roadblock. Instead, you should avoid areas where individuals are demonstrating and in case of roadblocks, find an alternate means of arriving at your destination or return to the origin.

Americans living or traveling in Ecuador are encouraged to register with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate through the State Department's travel registration website <https://travelregistration.state.gov>> , and to obtain updated information on travel and security within Ecuador.

Americans without Internet access may register directly with the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. By registering, American citizens make it easier for the Embassy or Consulate to contact them in case of emergency. Please see the following links for local warden message information in Quito and Guayaquil, respectively: <http://ecuador.usembassy.gov/> and <http://guayaquil.usconsulate.gov/>.

U.S. citizens should consult the Country Specific Information for Ecuador and the latest Travel

Alerts and Warnings and Worldwide Caution at the Department's web site at <http://travel.state.gov>. Updated information on travel and security in Ecuador may also be obtained from the Department of State by calling 1-888-407-4747 within the United States or by calling 1-202-501-4444 outside the United States.

The U.S. Embassy in Quito is located at Avigiras E12-170 y Eloy Alfaro. The telephone number for public call-in hours (Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and Friday 8:00 to 5:00 p.m.) is (011) 593-2-398-5172/5537/5588. Within the same city use the last seven digits. Add the city code for intercity telephone calls. See also the Embassy web site at <http://ecuador.usembassy.gov/>. American Citizen walk-in hours are between 1:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday, excluding U.S. and Ecuadorian holidays.

The U.S. Consulate General in Guayaquil is located at the corner of Avenida 9 de Octubre and Garcia Moreno (near the Hotel Oro Verde); telephone (011-593-4) 232-3570 during business hours (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) or 232-1152 for after-hours emergencies; fax (011-593-4) 232-0904. See the Consulate General web site at <http://guayaquil.usconsulate.gov/>.